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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Belgian Congo

SUBJECT Annual Mineral Production

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SUPP. TO

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- "In spite of the decrease in price of several metals the activity of the Belgian Congo mining industry was kept at its highest level and production was increased.
- "The Union Miriare reached a new peak with 209 thousand metric tons of copper and its connected industries gave 242 thousand tons of zinc concentrate; cobalt production was 8350 tons.
- 3. "Important secret talks have been going on about new agreements concerning the production of uranium and its delivery to the US and UK.
- 4. "The manganese production reached 108,313 tons. The development of this production will now probably be alowed down until the available electric power is increased. The erection of the new hydroelectric power plants cannot keep pace with the demand of the growing industry.

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- 5. "The cassiterite production reached 16,300 tons. This output will probably be curtailed in as tin is the first metal to be struck by the fact that the US stocks have attained their maximum. The Belgian Congo will however create a small buffer stock. The Geomines, which encountered serious difficulties in its preparation to treat hard ore, has now devised an intermediate program which will treat partly broken up hard pegmatites for several years with lithium andtantalite as by-products.
- "Wolframite production was 190 tons, and the mixed cassiterite-wolframite ores 25X1A gave 1027 tons. This mineral will also be in a poor situation in

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"On the other hand, the demand for columbite is still increasing and the production will be accelerated. The output of tantalite-columbite at 55% X205 and the mixed cassiterite-tantalite-columbite ores attained 234 tons in reached 1594 tons. 25X1A

8. "Gold mining is holding its own and delivered 11,360 kgs of fine gold in

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- 9. "Gem diamond is the only mineral whose production decreased in the year: it reached only 564,072 carats, but the industrial diamonds were pushed to 12,016,198 carats, more than a million carats above the preceding year.
- 10. "In the mandated territory of Ruanda-Urundi the trend has been the same: cassiterite output reached 2853 tons, tantalite production was 56 tons, and wolframite reached 635 tons.
- 11. "Ruanda-Urundi also produces a rare and interesting mineral, bastnaesite, which contains 33% of cerium. The production was 367 tons."

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